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Letter dated 31 August 2000 from the Permanent Representative of Kuwait to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

On instructions from my Government, I have the honour to inform you that over the past two weeks Kuwaiti security services have observed movements in the demilitarized zone by Iraqi naval units equipped with weapons whose use in the zone is prohibited. This is in clear violation of the United Nations rules governing the zone. We have kept the headquarters of the United Nations Iraq-Kuwait Observation Mission (UNIKOM) at Umm Qasr informed of these infractions and have alerted it to the need for violations to be monitored and the necessary measures taken in their regard. The violations observed were as follows:

1. On Thursday, 10 August 2000, an Iraqi boat equipped with a weapon whose use is prohibited in the demilitarized zone was observed in the area between the Khawr al-Zubayr and Khawr Abd Allah waterways north of Warbah Island. The UNIKOM chief of operations was notified accordingly at the time.

2. On Friday, 11 August 2000, three Iraqi boats equipped with heavy weapons were observed heading from Khawr al-Zubayr towards Khawr Abd Allah. The UNIKOM chief of operations was notified accordingly at the time.

3. On Friday, 11 August 2000, a violation was reported by UNIKOM when the Iraqi side penetrated the demilitarized zone.

4. On Sunday, 13 August 2000, a boat belonging to the Iraqi Coast Guard was observed heading from Khawr al-Zubayr towards Khawr Abd Allah. It was equipped with a prohibited weapon and carried four persons in military uniform. The UNIKOM chief of operations was notified accordingly.

5. At 9.45 a.m. on Monday, 14 August 2000, an Iraqi boat equipped with a weapon was observed heading from Khawr al-Zubayr towards Khawr Abd Allah. The UNIKOM chief of operations was informed accordingly.

6. On Sunday, 20 August 2000, an Iraqi violation was reported by UNIKOM involving the use of "X-ray" road, located inside Kuwaiti territory, by an Iraqi coming from the Iraqi side. ("X-ray" is the designation of a road that runs parallel to the berm and is located inside Kuwaiti territory.)

Such violations and the other recurring infractions committed by the Iraqi regime for the purpose of undermining the security and integrity of Kuwait's boundaries provide renewed confirmation that that regime has no peaceful

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intentions. They further require you to intervene in order to bring pressure to bear on the Iraqi Government to desist from its violations, renounce its bellicose intentions and respect the sovereignty, security and independence of the State of Kuwait.

I am transmitting to you herewith a videotape* showing these naval units passing through the demilitarized zone.

I should be grateful if you would have this letter circulated as a document of the Security Council and have the materials transmitted brought to the attention of Council members.

(Signed) Mohammad A. **Abulhasan**
Permanent Representative

* The above-mentioned videotape may be consulted at the Secretariat, United Nations and Specialized Agencies Collection, in Room L-260.